Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ARAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 DHA-02 TRSE-00 COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 /080 W

O P 051812Z JUL 77 FM AMEMBASSY LIMA TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5543 INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY A/AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO PRIORITY 4304

CONFIDENTIAL LIMA 5539

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PINS, PE SUBJECT: INTERIOR MINISTER PROVIDES DETAILS ON RECENT DISTURBANCES IN TACNA

REF: LIMA 5376, LIMA 5437

1. AT JULY 4 RECEPTION AT RESIDENCE INTERIOR MINISTER LUIS CISNEROS VIZQUERRA TOLD EMBOFF THAT TWO PEOPLE HAD BEEN KILLED AND AT LEAST 15 WERE WOUNDED DURING RECENT DISTURBANCES IN TACNA. CISNEROS SAID THAT THE GOP WAS UNPREPARED FOR DISTURBANCES IN TACNA, BECAUSE OF THE REGION'S FERVENT PATRIOTISM AND SENSE OF NATIONAL PRIDE. HE ATTRIBUTED THE DISTURBANCES TO OUTSIDE AGITATIORS, SPECIFICALLY TO VICTOR CUADROS, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE FAR-LEFT NATIONAL FEDERATION OF MINERS (FNMMP) WHICH HE SAID WAS COORDINATING ITS ACTIVITES WITH THE COMMUNIST PARTY, DESPITE THE FNMMP'S FAR-LEFT ORIENTATION.

2. ACCORDING TO CISNEROS, CUADROS WAS ARRESTED IN TACNA. UNION LEADERS CLAIM, HOWEVER, THAT HE WAS SEIZED EARLIER AT HIS HOME IN TOQUEPALA AND THAT THIS PREVENTIVE ARREST CONFIDENTIAL

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WAS THE CAUSE OF THE TOQUEPALA STRIKE (REFTELS).

3. THE TACNA DISBURBANCES MAY HAVE INTERNATIONAL RAMIFICATIONS. FONMIN DE LA PUENTE TOLD EMBASSADOR DURING JULY 5 COURTESY CALL THAT LE FIGARO OF PARIS REPORTED ARMED CLASH BETWEEN CHILEANS AND PERUVIANS IN TACNA IN WHICH TWO PERSONS WERE KILLED. THE FONMIN STATED THAT HE IMMEIDATELY INFORMED

PERUVIAN EMBASSY INPARIS OF FACTS AND ASKED FOR AN ENERGEIC DENIAL OF LE FIGARO STORY AND A CONDEMNATION OF IRRESPONSIBLE JOURNALISM.
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Subject: INTERIOR MINISTER PROVIDES DETAILS ON RECENT DISTURBANCES IN TACNA TAGS: PINS, ELAB, PE, US, (CISNEROS VIZQUERRA, LUIS)

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